

GHAJAR EXHIBIT 45

12/6/2024

Richard Kadrey, et al. v. Meta Platforms, Inc.
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Eugene Nho

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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION

RICHARD KADREY, et al.,)

)

Individual and)

Representative)

Plaintiffs,)

)

v.)

Case No. 3:23-cv-03417-VC

)

META PLATFORMS, INC.,)

)

Defendant.)

)

** HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL - ATTORNEYS' EYES ONLY **

Videotaped Deposition of EUGENE NHO

San Francisco, California

Friday, December 6, 2024

Reported Stenographically by

Michael P. Hensley, RDR, CSR No. 14114

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1 THE WITNESS: I think I answered the
2 question earlier, which was you do think about it.
3 It is very hard to imagine whether it would lose
4 money or not because you don't know who would adopt
5 it. It was an entirely new attempt.

6 We have never done anything like that; so
7 there hasn't been -- I don't recall that as a very
8 prominent, salient factor in price determination.

9 BY ATTORNEY STOLER:

10 Q. All right. And you said you moved to a
11 position in GenAI in May; correct?

12 A. That is correct.

13 Q. All right. What is your position in the
14 GenAI group?

15 A. Product manager.

16 Q. So you've been a product manager your
17 entire time at Meta; correct?

18 A. That is correct.

19 Q. All right. Have you received any
20 promotion during your time at Meta?

21 A. I have.

22 Q. All right. But that promotion did not

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1 come with a change in title; correct?

2 A. It did. I -- I'm a director of product

3 management, but product manager is the -- PM is the

4 function that I'm in; so I don't necessarily change

5 what I call myself. I'm a product manager. I could

6 be a lead product manager, staff product manager,

7 director of product management, but I'm product

8 manager.

9 Q. All right. Well, if you could describe to
10 me -- let's start here.

11 What -- what's your current title at Meta?

12 A. Official title?

13 Q. Yes.

14 A. Director of product management.

15 Q. All right. And how long have you been a
16 director of product management?

17 A. Roughly nine months.

18 Q. So were you promoted to a director of
19 product management while you were in the
20 monetization group?

21 A. That is correct.

22 Q. All right. And then shortly after that

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1 A. FAIR is a research organization that is a
2 separate sister org to the entire GenAI org.

3 Q. And what does FAIR work on?

4 A. They work on fundamental research in
5 various domains across AI that may or may not have
6 to do with generative AI technologies.

7 Q. All right. And so in your time in the
8 GenAI group, have you always been in the
9 foundational team?

10 A. That is correct.

11 Q. All right. And I think you previously
12 testified that that foundational team is responsible
13 for developing the Llama models; is that correct?

14 A. That is correct.

15 Q. Do you have any role in developing the
16 Llama models?

17 A. I do. I work on data and currently also
18 reasoning.

19 Q. What does it mean to work on reasoning?

20 A. Teach the model to be really good at
21 reasoning so you can solve very complex math
22 problems or physics problems, et cetera, et cetera.

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1 Q. All right. What are your responsibilities
2 in your current role in the foundational team?

3 A. I set the long-term vision for data for
4 Llama; so various ways and places where we need to
5 get the best data in the world to train the Llama
6 models, and for this other responsibility which is
7 relatively new.

8 For reasoning, I think about what ultimate
9 use cases we want to be good at with reasoning and
10 how we should consequence our research activity so
11 that we can get there.

12 Q. Okay. You mentioned that you set the
13 long-term vision for data for Llama; right?

14 A. That is correct.

15 Q. All right. And that involves, in your
16 words, getting the best data in the world to train
17 the Llama models; correct?

18 A. That is correct.

19 Q. All right. And when you say "get the best
20 data," what -- what do you mean by that?

21 A. There are a number of different levers, or
22 channels, to get data. One obvious place is our own

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1 first party data, because we have a lot of our
2 on-platform user data. There's crawling. There is
3 synthetic data, so we use the model to generate
4 data. There is licensing.

5 And there are a few others that are things
6 like how do you train the model to be equally good
7 but not -- without using as much data; so how do you
8 do more with less? Annotation, et cetera.

9 So there's a range of levers that we need
10 to use to acquire the best data for Llama models.

11 Q. All right. One method of data acquisition
12 you just mentioned was crawling; right?

13 A. That is correct.

14 Q. All right. Can you tell me what crawling
15 is.

16 A. In layman's words, it's you go and capture
17 the web. It's -- you basically automatically --
18 just like a human would read a web page, imagine a
19 crawler, or a machine, that goes in, reads all the
20 webs pages, and downloads that.

21 The same thing that Google does in order
22 to power their search engines. The same thing that

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1 Q. Okay. And you said you try to develop
2 intuitions about what is and isn't quality data;
3 right?

4 A. I did, yeah.

5 Q. And are there any metrics that inform
6 those intuitions about what is and isn't
7 high-quality data?

8 ATTORNEY BRIGHAM: Objection. Form.

9 THE WITNESS: That's the ultimate
10 benchmark, the model performance benchmark. There
11 are a set of industry benchmarks that measure
12 whether the model is great at. Does it know these
13 kind of knowledge questions well? Does it know how
14 to solve math problems? Does it know how to do
15 graduate level across the domain tasks? Is it good
16 at multilingual tasks, et cetera?

17 So there are all these metrics, or
18 benchmarks, that the industry has that many of the
19 LLMs run on those benchmarks to see how they
20 perform. That's what -- what eventually we look at.

21 But you can't just look -- it's -- again,
22 that's why that ablation step, testing step, is

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1 important; because until we do it, it's hard for us
2 to predict ultimately how good the model would be.

3 BY ATTORNEY STOLER:

4 Q. So in a situation where your -- you do
5 have possession of the data such that you could run
6 an ablation study, you would use industry benchmarks
7 to form an intuition of whether or not that data is
8 of high quality?

9 ATTORNEY BRIGHAM: Objection. Form.

10 THE WITNESS: Actually, that is incorrect.
11 The ablation itself, the test is -- the outcome of
12 the test that the industry -- industry benchmark
13 score, you have specific data, you have that
14 version -- you have a -- you have a model that is
15 trained on with this data and you have a model that
16 is trained on without this data, and you look at how
17 it performs in those set of industry benchmarks.
18 You look at benchmark and that's how you determine
19 whether this data was good or not.

20 BY ATTORNEY STOLER:

21 Q. But in a situation where you don't have
22 the data available to you --

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1 version of it where we would talk about across
2 different modalities, what should we be doing.

3 So does that answer your question?

4 Q. No.

5 So I'm asking just if you know one way or
6 the other of a document referred to as a "text
7 pretraining data road map."

8 A. I know it exists. I think I've seen it.
9 I can't tell you what's in it right now.

10 Q. Okay. That does answer my question.

11 Thank you.

12 All right. If you'd turn now to the
13 second page of Exhibit 2. And take a look -- these
14 headers are numbered here, and if you'd look with me
15 to number 6 which starts "How to address the
16 research risk."

17 Do you see that?

18 A. I do.

19 Q. Do you know what research risk is being
20 referred to in this header?

21 A. One second. Let me just take a look.

22 I do.

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1 Q. And can you tell me what that is?

2 A. This is talking about how from -- going
3 from Llama 3 to Llama 4, we need to have far larger
4 data size, and then you need -- when you have a
5 larger data size, the specific proportions of
6 data -- the -- make sure that the data proportions
7 stay in an optimal way is really hard.

8 I guess another way -- easier way to think
9 about it is we're -- we're constructing a learning
10 curriculum for the model, and when the learning
11 curriculum has to become multiple times larger, then
12 making sure that the right kinds of the topics get
13 covered in the right proportion gets harder because
14 certain topics are really hard to source, and they
15 just don't exist that many -- not much exists in the
16 world.

17 Does that make sense?

18 Q. Yes. Thank you.

19 All right. You can put Exhibit 2 aside
20 for the moment. We'll return to it.

21 A. Mm-hmm.

22 ATTORNEY STOLER: All right. I'm going to

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1 ATTORNEY STOLER: We can -- well --

2 BY ATTORNEY STOLER:

3 Q. All right. And then it says, "or when we
4 identify datasets with particularly high expected
5 value."

6 You see that?

7 A. I see that.

8 Q. Okay. Do you know of any situation where
9 you've identified datasets with particularly high
10 expected value?

11 A. Yes. There are actually a number of
12 circumstances when we would get introductions, or we
13 would somehow run into a potential partner who has
14 data that's valuable. And then we decide to have --
15 see if there's a potential licensing path.

16 It's -- a lot of times, there isn't.
17 Like, they don't even know how to think about
18 pricing. They don't even know a lot of times
19 whether they have the rights to license or not. But
20 we would -- an example would be, you know, we got
21 introduced to a company that runs call centers or
22 builds a technology that powers call centers, and

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1 they might have really interesting data to train our
2 speech models.

3 We got introduced a agency that helps
4 Indian students pick their college majors and
5 prepare them for college entrance exams. They had
6 some interesting test prep data, and this was
7 through, like, a personal connection of the
8 employee. And we ran into them. It seems like they
9 have high-quality data; so we pursued that.

10 So this is basically saying like
11 opportunistically, we'll also -- as we find them,
12 we'll pursue them.

13 ATTORNEY STOLER: Got it. And --

14 Why don't we go off the record.

15 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Okay. We're off the
16 record at 1:56.

17 (A break was taken.)

18 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We are now on the
19 record at 3:09.

20 BY ATTORNEY STOLER:

21 Q. All right, Mr. Nho. Picking up where we
22 left off, we were discussing the -- what is, I

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1 CERTIFICATE OF SHORTHAND REPORTER

2

3 I, Michael P. Hensley, Registered Diplomate

4 Reporter for the State of California, CSR No. 14114,

5 the officer before whom the foregoing deposition was

6 taken, do hereby certify that the foregoing

7 transcript is a true and correct record of the

8 testimony given; that said testimony was taken by me

9 stenographically and thereafter reduced to

10 typewriting under my direction; that reading and

11 signing was not requested; and that I am neither

12 counsel for, related to, nor employed by any of the

13 parties to this case and have no interest, financial

14 or otherwise, in its outcome.

15

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Michael P. Hensley, CSR, RDR